

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A sales assistance system, being connected with a plurality of client terminals through a ~~computer network~~, comprising:

a-communication means, being connected with said ~~computer network~~, for inputting a-goods purchase request information including a customer address relating information of a customer from said a client terminals being used by said customer, said customer address relating information includes an address of a place to which goods to be purchased by said customer are to be delivered;

a memory device for storing at least a-goods/store information including the goods and the stores which ~~deal with those~~ sell the goods; and

a controller portion for searching said a plurality of stores from the goods/store information, stored in said memory device, based on using said customer address relating information, to determine at least one store nearest to said address of said place to which goods to be purchased by said customer are to be delivered, which is inputted through said communication means, so as to display them displaying information of said at least one store on one of said client terminals, as well as for detecting the a store which is among said at least one store selected by the said customer, among those plural stores, so as to transmit the and transmitting said goods purchase request information which is inputted from said client terminal to said the selected store which is detected so as to effect purchase of said goods and delivery of the purchased goods to said place to which goods to be purchased are to be delivered.

2. (currently amended) A sales assistance system as described in the claim 1, wherein a number n of ~~the plural stores~~ said at least one store which are searched and displayed based upon ~~the basis of~~ said customer address relating information lies within a range from being equal or greater than ten and being equal or less than twenty ($10 \leq n \leq 20$).

3. (original) A sales assistance system according to claim 1, wherein said controller portion further comprises:

a transmit device which sends the inputted goods purchase request information to said store which is detected.

4. (original) A sales assistance system as described in the claim 1, wherein said transmit device is at least any one of a facsimile modem, a facsimile apparatus and an electronic mail device.

5. (original) A sales assistance system as described in the claim 1, wherein the goods/store information which are stored within said memory device includes image information of the goods which the store are handling.

6. (currently amended) A sales assistance method for assisting sales of goods using a computer system, which is connected with a plurality of client terminals through a ~~computer~~ network, and including a memory device for storing at least a goods/store information including information concerning the goods and the

stores which deal with those goods, and a controller portion, said sales assistance method comprising the steps of:

inputting purchase request information including ~~a customer address relating information of a customer from any one of said~~ a client terminals being used by said customer, said customer address relating information includes an address of a place to which goods to be purchased by said customer are to be delivered;

~~searching a plurality of stores which are dealing with said goods, from the said goods/store information, stored in said memory device, based on using said customer address relating information, to determine at least one store nearest to said address of said place to which goods to be purchased by said customer are to be delivered, and which is inputted, so as to display them~~ displaying information of said at least one store on said client terminal;

~~detecting the a store which is among said at least one store selected by the customer on said client terminal among those plural stores; and~~

~~transmitting the said goods purchase request information which is inputted from said client terminal to said the selected store which is detected so as to effect purchase of said goods and delivery of the purchased goods to said place to which goods to be purchased are to be delivered.~~

7. (original) A sales assistance method as described in the claim 5, wherein a number n of the plural stores which are searched and displayed based on said customer address relating information lies within a range from being equal or greater than ten and being equal or less than twenty ($10 \leq n \leq 20$).

8. (original) A sales assistance method as described in the claim 6, wherein the transmitting step is conducted using at least any one of a facsimile modem, a facsimile apparatus and an electronic mail device.

9. (currently amended) A server connected to network, comprising:

- a communication device connected to a network;
- a first portion₁ connected to the communication device, ~~which receive~~ receives an order of merchandise from an user via the network;
- a second portion₁ connected to the communication device, to confirm a delivery address to deliver merchandise ~~user-ordered by said user~~;
- a third portion₁ connected to the communication device and the second portion, to confirm a shop₁ picked up based on whether the delivery address is near a location of the shop; and
- a fourth portion₁ connected to the first portion and the third portion, to ~~make~~ allow said user to complete an application with- for purchase of the merchandise from the shop, said application including the order and the a shop address of the shop, and to transmit the application to the shop which upon approval of the application delivers the merchandise to the delivery address.

10. (original) The server connected to network according to claim 9, wherein said application having a signature area for testifying receiving correctly.

11. (currently amended) A server connected to network, comprising:

- a communication device connected to a network;
- a first portion₁ connected to the communication device, ~~to receive~~which receives an order of merchandise from an user via the network;
- a second portion₁ connected to the communication device, to confirm a delivery address to deliver merchandise ~~user-ordered~~ by the user;
- a third portion₁ connected to the communication device and the second portion, to confirm a shop picked up based on whether the delivery address is near a location of the shop;
- a fourth portion₁ connected to the first portion and the third portion, to ~~make~~ allow said user to complete an application ~~with~~ for purchase of the merchandise from the shop, said application including the order and ~~the~~ a shop address of the shop;

and

- a transmitting device₁ connected to the fourth portion, to transmit the application to the shop ~~specified at the shop address, said shop upon approval of the application delivers the merchandise to the delivery address.~~

12. (original) The server connected to network according to claim 11, wherein said application having a signature area for testifying receiving correctly.

13. (currently amended) A method for assisting sales using network, comprising the steps of:

- receiving an order of merchandise from an user via the network;

confirming a delivery address to deliver merchandise ~~user ordered~~ by the user;
~~confirming a delivery address to deliver merchandise user ordered;~~
confirming a shop picked up, based on whether the delivery address is near a location of the shop; and
allowing the user to complete making an application with the order and a the shop address of the shop, the shop upon approval of the application delivers the merchandise to the delivery address.

14. (original) The method according to claim 13, further comprising the step of:

transmitting said application to the shop confirmed by user.

15. (currently amended) A computer readable storing a ~~medicum~~ medium having stored thereon a computer program for assisting sales using network, the program when executed on server causes the server to perform the steps of:

receiving an order of merchandise from an user via a network;
confirming a delivery address to deliver merchandise ~~user ordered~~ by the user;
confirming a shop picked up based on whether the delivery address is near a location of the shop; and

allowing the user to complete making a confirmation with the order and a the
shop address of the shop, the shop upon approval of the application delivers the
merchandise to the delivery address.

16. (original) The computer program according to claim 15, when
executed further causes the server to perform the step of transmitting said
application to the shop confirmed by user.